NEWS RELEASE

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ONTARIO GOVERNMENT CELEBRATES WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
Women's Wartime Contributions Being Honoured During Year Of The Veteran

QUEEN'S PARK – The Ontario government is celebrating Women's History Month in October by honouring the contributions of women to military and peacekeeping efforts at home and abroad, and educating young people about the role women have played in the history and growth of Ontario.

"The women of Ontario made incredible sacrifices during wartime by defending democracy both at home and abroad," said Sandra Pupatello, Minister Responsible for Women's Issues. "We are celebrating the contributions of women to military and peacekeeping actions because we want to encourage a new generation of women to become leaders in their communities ."

The theme of this year's Women's History Month is Women and War: Contributions and Consequences. This year also marks the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War and has been declared the Year of the Veteran.

"This year's Women's History Month theme celebrates the unique contributions of Canada's female veterans," said Jim Bradley, Minister Responsible for Seniors. "It is important that we celebrate the accomplishments of all veterans so that their stories are never forgotten."

This Women's History Month recognizes the countless contributions of women to military and peacekeeping efforts at home and abroad in order to appreciate the consequences these conflicts have had on their status and the recognition of their rights.

The Ontario Women's Directorate has developed special online resource material designed to promote greater awareness of these contributions. The resource material will be posted during the first week of October at: www.ontariowomensdirectorate.gov.on.ca.

"Women's History Month is an opportunity to celebrate the significant contributions the women of Ontario have made to all aspects of the province's economic, social and cultural life," said Pupatello. "By educating young people about the contributions of women to the history and growth of Ontario, we are giving them the knowledge they need to one day become leaders in this province."

- 30 -

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TOP

Us | Publications and Resources | A Guide to Government Services For Women | Related Sites | Grants | FAQ | Text Version |

| central site | feedback | search | site map | français |

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